



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention and Emergency Response Program
SITUATION REPORT



Repsol Q2 Pad Gas and Mud Release

SITREP # 3

SPILL NUMBER: 12399904601

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: Repsol reported the incident to ADEC at 10:29 AM on February 15, 2012.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 2:00 PM on February 16, 2012

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Repsol estimates that approximately 42,000 gallons (1,000 barrels) of fresh-water-based drilling mud have been released to the ice pad and adjacent snow-covered tundra. An unknown amount of gas has been released. The mud that was released is a mixture of minerals (primarily barium sulfate) and water. Drilling mud is used to lubricate the drill, control formation pressure, and remove cuttings from the bore. No oil has been spilled.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Qugruk #2 Pad, on the Colville River Delta, approximately 18 miles northeast of Nuiqsut, Alaska (70°27'19" N, 150°44'52" W)

CAUSE OF SPILL: Repsol contractor Nabors Drilling was drilling an exploratory well when the drill penetrated a shallow gas pocket at a depth of 2,525 feet, resulting in a gas kick. The gas kick drove drilling mud out of the well and through the gas diverter, which extends 75 feet from the rig, onto the ice pad and adjacent snow-covered tundra. Additional mud was pumped into the borehole in an attempt to kill the well, but that mud was also blown out.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Repsol E&P USA

RESPONSE ACTION: A team from Wild Well Control Inc. (WWC) arrived at the drilling pad at 5:30 AM today. Gas levels at the pad were low enough for the team to work safely on the pad and begin their assessment of the well. Air monitoring shows that the flow of gas from the well is minimal. WWC is working with Repsol engineers and the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC) on a well control plan.

A planned overflight of the drilling pad to view the spill was cancelled this afternoon due to fog. An overflight will be made at the first opportunity, with an ADEC responder on board. Three other ADEC responders are en route to begin round-the-clock monitoring of the cleanup.

SOURCE CONTROL: The well is currently not under control. Small amounts of methane gas and water continue to flow from the well. Drilling mud is no longer flowing from the well.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Snow-covered tundra and ice pad. Drilling mud can affect tundra plants by changing soil pH and salinity.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Once the well is under control, Alaska Clean Seas crews will have access to the pad to delineate the spill and begin cleaning up the drilling mud.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Jeremy Michaels, O'Brien's Response Management

F.O.S.C.: Matt Carr, EPA

S.O.S.C.: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC

Field SOS: Wes Ghormley, ADEC

WEATHER: Today: Snow showers and areas of fog; high temperature 4°F; northeast wind 10 mph.

Tonight: Chance of snow; low -14°F; east wind 10 mph.

Friday: Cloudy; high -3°F; east wind 10 mph.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 2:00 PM on February 17, 2012

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Ty Keltner, Public Information Officer, ADEC (907) 465-5009

Photographs and other spill information will be available for viewing at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/index.htm>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list and includes: governor's office, Senator Begich's office, SECC, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

| AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER | NAME | SENT VIA | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION | TELEPHONE | FAX |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Repsol | Jan Sieving | email | | | |
| Nabors Drilling | Denny Smith | email | | | |
| AOGCC | | Fax | | | 276-7542 |
| ADNR | Melissa Head/ Brian Jackson/ Sean Willison | Fax | melissa.head@alaska.gov brian.jackson@alaska.gov sean.willison@alaska.gov | 451-2719/ 451-2732/ 451-2724 | 451-2751 or 659-2965 |
| ADNR Div of Oil & Gas | Bill Barron | | bill.barron@alaska.gov | | |
| ADF&G | Jack Winters Todd Nichols | Fax | jack.winters@alaska.gov todd.nichols@alaska.gov | 459-7285 or 459-7279 | 459-7303 |
| EPA | Matt Carr/Robert Whittier | Fax | Carr.matthew@epa.gov or whittier.robert@epa.gov | 271-5083 or 271-3247 | 271-6340 |
| Attorney General Office | Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder | Fax | Cam.leonard@alaska.gov Steve.mulder@alaska.gov | 451-2811 or 269-5100 | 451-2985/ 278-7022 |
| Governor's Office (Fairbanks) | Parnell/Treadwell | Fax | Sean.parnell@alaska.gov Mead.treadwell@alaska.gov | 451-2920 | 451-2858 |
| Lt. Governor's Office (Juneau) | Parnell/Treadwell | Fax | Sean.parnell@alaska.gov Mead.treadwell@alaska.gov | | 465-5400 |
| Senator Murkowski's Washington DC Office | Chief of Staff | Fax | North Slope only | (202) 224-6665 | (202) 224-5301 |
| Senator Murkowski's Office in Fairbanks | | Fax | North Slope only | 456-0233 | 451-7146 |
| North Slope Borough | Charlotte Brower | Fax | Mayor | 852-0200 | 852-0337 |
| North Slope Borough | Rhoda Ahmaogak | Fax | Planning Director | 852-0440 | 852-5991 |
| Senate T/ Nome | Donnie Olson | Fax | Nome 5/16-1/09 Juneau 1/10-5/15 | 465-3707 | 465-4821 |
| House 40/ Kotzebue | Reggie Joule | Fax | Kotzebue 5/16-1/09 Juneau 1/10-5/15 | 465-4833 or (800) 782-4833 | 465-4586 |